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COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT
Fifth session
Geneva, 28 May – 1 June 2001
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

BUDGET AND INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION

Note by the Secretariat

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1. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1997/62, recommended that at future sessions of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), the report on budget and inter-sessional activities be considered under a separate agenda item. In accordance with ECOSOC decision 1999/274, which approved the provisional agenda of the fifth session of CSTD, the report on budget and inter-sessional activities is to be considered under its agenda item five.

I. The budget of the Commission

2. Under the 2000-2001 programme budget of the United Nations, CSTD has an allotment of US$ 240,720 to be used for the travel of members to attend the fifth session, as well as for the travel and subsistence allowance for the meetings of the panels on biotechnology that were set up to prepare the inputs for the Commission's fifth session. Table 1 provides an account of the allotments and expenditures for CSTD activities under the regular budget in the 2000-2001 biennium and of the income and expenditures for CSTD inter-sessional activities covered by extrabudgetary resources.

3. In the year 2000, from the regular budget, an amount of US$ 143,732 was spent to support the work of the panels on biotechnology, to finance travel and subsistence allowances for the panel meetings held. The remaining amount of US$ 96,988 was earmarked to pay for the travel of the Commission members to participate in the fifth session and possibly for other activities of CSTD in the remaining part of 2001.

4. With regard to extrabudgetary resources, the available resources for CSTD work in 1999-2001 inter-sessional period came to US$ 94,900. As shown in table 1, the amount of US$ 22,600 was the balance from the trust fund that had been set up with contributions from the Government of the Netherlands (Dutch Fund) to cover various CSTD activities. In August 2000, an agreement was reached between the Government of the Netherlands and UNCTAD to extend the duration of this trust fund project until the end of 2000 to enable UNCTAD to finalize planned activities recommended by CSTD, i.e. preparations of materials on coalition of resources for publication. In December 2000, the UNCTAD secretariat hired a consultant for US$ 15,000 for the preparation of a synthesis report on coalition of resources. The amount of US$ 4,600 will be spent on printing this synthesis report and other materials on coalition of resources and US$ 3,000 are reserved for miscellaneous purposes.

5. In addition to the above, the Trust Fund for Special Activities on Science and Technology for Development established by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 4 April 1985 to disseminate science and technology is available for financing activities in support of the work of CSTD in the area of new and emerging technologies. From this Trust Fund, which had by 1 January 2000 the balance of US$ 72,300, US$ 45,000 are to be spent on consultancy, US$ 11,500 on travel of experts, US$ 3,500 on travel of staff, and US$ 12,300 for external publications of studies prepared by consultants. In the second half of 2000, the secretariat hired two consultants to implement activities recommended by CSTD at its fourth session, i.e. (i) to prepare a report containing analysis of best practices in partnering and networking in science and technology-related fields and building an inventory of opportunities for international science and technology partnerships and networking (US$ 10,000); and (ii) to create an electronic science and technology for development network with a view to improving information exchange on technology-related issues, knowledge diffusion

Table 1
Summary of overall CSTD budget
1 January 2000 – 28 February 2001
(in US$)

I. REGULAR BUDGET

Item	Allotment	Expenditure	Committed	Planned	Balance
1. Travel of participants to the 5th session	96,988.00			96,988.00	
Sub-total	96,988.00			96,988.00	
2. Panels on biotechnology	143,732.00	143,732.00			
Sub-total	143,732.00	143,732.00			
Regular budget total	240,720.00	143,732.00		96,988.00	

II. EXTRABUDGETARY RESOURCES

Item	Income	Expenditure	Committed	Planned	Balance
A. Dutch Trust Fund	22,600.00				
1. Consultants		15,000.00			
2. Printing of reports				4,600.00	
3. Miscellaneous				3,000.00	
Dutch Trust Fund sub-total	**22,600.00**	**15,000.00**		**7,600.00**	
B. Trust Fund for Special Activities on Science and Technology for Development	72,300.00				
1. Consultants	45,000.00		22,000.00		23,000.00
2. Ad Hoc experts	11,500.00				11,500.00
3. Travel of staff	3,500.00	3,500.00			
4. External printing	12,300.00				12,300.00
Trust Fund for Special Activities Sub total	**72,300.00**	**3,500.00**	**22,000.00**		**46,800.00**
Extrabudgetary total	**94,900.00**	**18,500.00**	**22,000.00**	**7,600.00**	**46,800.00**

and continuous learning in UNCTAD, in other UN agencies and in Member States (US$ 12,000).

II. Inter-sessional activities of the Commission

May 1999 – February 2001

6. In carrying out its inter-sessional work, the Commission held its first Bureau meeting and a preparatory meeting of the panels on biotechnology in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, from 2 to 4 September 1999. These meetings were held in conjunction with the International Conference on Biotechnology in the Global Economy, organized and hosted by the Center for International Development (CID) and the Delfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University. The purpose of the meeting of the Bureau and of the preparatory meeting referred to above was: (i) to launch the inter-sessional work of the Commission on national capacity-building in biotechnology; and (ii) to discuss the organization of panels and the subthemes upon which each of the three panel meetings would focus. The mission cost of CSTD members was covered from the CSTD regular budget for the 1998-1999 biennium that remained after the fourth session of the Commission.

7. Three panel meetings on various aspects of biotechnology were held in 2000 with support from the CSTD 2000-2001 budget. These were:

- Panel on capacity-building in biotechnology, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 11-13 April 2000;
- Panel on legal and regulatory issues in biotechnology, Geneva, Switzerland, 3-5 July 2000;
- Panel on public awareness and participation in science policy-making in biotechnology, Tunis, Tunisia, 14-16 November 2000.

8. The annex provides details on the agendas and participants of these three panel meetings.

9. Additional information on inter-sessional activities of the Commission is also contained in the documentation prepared for agenda items 3 and 6 of the fifth session of the Commission.

Annex

INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF CSTD

Panel on capacity building in biotechnology
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
11-13 April 2000

Agenda

1. Opening statement
2. Consideration of main items on capacity building in biotechnology
   (a) Item 1: National policies and institutional capacity-building in biotechnology: Presentations of country case studies by members of CSTD
   (b) Item 2: Managing and regulating biotechnology
   (c) Item 3: Monitoring and assessing the impact of biotechnology applications in developing countries
   (d) Item 4: The role of centres of excellence in building capacity in biotechnology.
3. Identification of critical issues in capacity building in biotechnology and follow-up actions
4. Panel recommendations for consideration by CSTD at its fifth session in 2001.

Participants

Members:

Dr. Pedro Teta
Professor Sun Wanhu
Dr. Liu Jun
Dr. Joseph R. Cobbinah
Dr. Lena Tsipouri
Mr. Cece Kpohomou
Dr.Mahmoud Molanejad
Dr. Sang-Ki Rhee
Dr. Tariq-ur-Rahman
Professor Štefan Moravek
Professor Vijay Kumar
Dr. Titus Mteleka

United Nations Agencies

Mr. Galileo Violini, UNESCO
Mr. Fereydon Bokaei, UNDP
Dr. Ali Y. Hakimi, FAO
Mr. Hossein Fadaei, UNEP

Resource Persons

Dr. Peter Gregory
Dr. John Mugabe
Professor Lynn K. Mytelka

Other Speakers

Professor Štefan Morávek
Dr. S.A. Motamedi
Dr. Mahmoud Molanejad
Dr. N. Moazami
Dr. M. H. Sanati

Secretariat

Ms. H. Argalias
Mr. M. Hamdi

Panel on legal and regulatory issues in biotechnology

Geneva, 3-5 July 2000

Agenda

1. Opening statements
2. Managing the opportunities and challenges
3. Technology transfer and diffusion
4. Intellectual property rights
5. Biosafety and bioethics
6. Conclusions and recommendations

Members

Professor Bernd Michael Rode
Ms. Marleen Bosschaerts
Mr. Syargei Katsko
Professor H. Hogbe Nlend
Dr. José Rodriguez Dueñas
Mr. Mulugeta
Mr. Eberhard Hauser
Dr. Joseph R. Cobbinah
Mr. Cecé Kpoghomou

Professor Dr. Yoedoro Soedarsono
Dr. M. Molanejad
Dr. Arnoldo K. Ventura
Dr. KongRae Lee
Dr. Tariq-ur Rahman
Mr. Victorio Oxilia
Ms. Rolanda Predescu
Professor Štefan Morávek
Mr. D. Jesús Martinez Frias
Professor Dr. Vijaya Kumar
Dr. Ali Abaab

Permanent Missions in Geneva

Mr. Arnaldo Abeti, Italy
Mr. Felix Grishaev, Russian Federation
Mr. David José Vivas Eugui, Venezuela

Resource Persons

Dr. Ivan Rodrigo Artunduaga Salas
Professor Gert-Jan van Ommen
Professor Calestour Juma

Observers and Invited Guests

Mr. Sam Johnston
Ms. Edda Rossi
Mr. Giovanni Ferraiolo
Mme. Anne-Marie Colandrea
Père Masimo de Gregori

Panel on public awareness and participation in science policy-making in biotechnology

Tunis, Tunisia, 14-16 November 2000

Agenda

1. Opening Statements

2. Background
   (a) Biotechnology and the public in Europe
   (b) Science communication in Europe
   (c) Raising public awareness about biotechnology in a developing country
3. Country reports
4. Discussion and emerging key issues
5. Conclusions and recommendations

Participants

Members

Dr. Justino Manuel Vanda
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Professor Bernd Michael Rode
Ms. Marilia Sardenberg Z. Gonçalves
Professor Henri Hogbe Nlend
Mr. Joseph Antoine Ngalani
Dr. Ricardo de la Caridad Silva Rodriguez
Mr. Shumu Teferra
Ms. Lena Tsipouri
Mrs. Ma. Angelina M. Sta. Catalina
Mr. Armando Trigo de Abreu
Mrs. Natalia Stepanova
Mr. Štefan Morávek
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Dr. Hamed Al-Awfi
Professor Radhouane Ellouz
Mr. Fatiou Foukouron
Mr. Oliver Wolf

Secretariat

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Ms. K. Stokes
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